Claims 1-7 (canceled)

- (previously presented) Composition according to claim 14 which contains 8.
 - (a) 0.01 to 10% by wt. of a compound of formula I, and
 - 0.1 to 90% by wt. of a compound selected from $C_1\text{-}C_6$ alkyl alcohols, (b) unsubstituted or substituted with a C6-C12 aryl, aralkyl or aryloxy group, anionic cationic, amphoteric or nonionic surfactants, dimethylforom-amide, betaines and glycerine.

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Claims 9-12 (canceled)

13. (previously presented) A compound according to formula I,

wherein R₁, R₃, R₅, R₆, and R₇ are hydrogen; R₂ is an ethyl group; R₄ is chlorine; and n is 1 or 2.

14. (previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative comprising:

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a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and at least one compound according to formula I:

wherein.

- R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;
- R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and
- each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and n is 1 or 2.

with the proviso, that

i) when R_1 and all groups R_3 through R_7 are hydrogen, then

n = 2:

- ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and
 - a) all groups R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, or
 - b) R_5 is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then n=2;
- iii) when R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are methyl and all groups R_3 and R_5 through R_7 are hydrogen, then n = 2;
- iv) when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2;
- v) when R_1 , R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then n=2;
- vi) when R_1 and R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is methyl or methoxy, then n=2;
- vii) when R_1 , R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then n=2; and
- viii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then n=2.

Claim 15 (canceled)

- 16. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.01 to about 10% by weight.
- 17. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.05 to about 8% by weight.
- 18. (previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 5% by weight.
- (withdrawn) A compound according to the formula I

wherein R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are all hydrogen, R_5 is methyl, R_2 is ethyl, R_1 is hydrogen, and n = 1.

20. (withdrawn) Process for the production of a compound of formula I:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} R_{2} & R_{1} \\ \hline \\ R_{3} & CH_{2} - C - (CH_{2})_{D} - CH_{2} \\ \hline \\ R_{3} & R_{2} \end{array}$$

wherein, R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are all hydrogen, R₅ is methyl, R₂ is ethyl, R_1 is hydrogen, and n = 1

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said process comprising the steps of:

- monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R2; a)
- b) dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃ through R₇ which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and
- reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of d) formula I.
- (previously presented) A shampoo or shower gel containing a preservative 21. comprising:
 - a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; a re-fatting agent; and

a compound according to formula I:

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wherein.

- R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl;
- R_2 is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl; and
- each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R1 and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.
- 22. (previously presented) A method of disinfecting a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said disinfectant comprising:
 - a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and a compound according to formula i:

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wherein,

- R_1 is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl;
- R_{z} is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl; and
- each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and in is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R1 and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.
- 23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said surface is skin, a mucous membrane, or a surgical glove.
- (previously presented) A method of deodorizing a surface comprising the step of 24. applying a disinfectant to said surface, said deodorant comprising:

a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and

a compound according to formula I:

wherein,

- R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;
- R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and
- each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R₁ and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl,

isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.

 (previously presented) A method according to claim 24, wherein said surface is skin.

26. (previously presented) Process for the production of a compound of formula I:

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$$\begin{array}{c|c} R_{5} & R_{7} & R_{1} \\ \hline \\ R_{5} & CH_{2} - C - (CH_{2})_{D} - CH \\ \hline \\ R_{3} & R_{2} \end{array}$$

wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and n is 1; said process comprising the steps of:

- a) monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R₂;
- dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃
 through R₇ which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and

> d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

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Claim 27 (canceled)

- 28. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R3 to R7 are hydrogen, R1 is hydrogen, R2 is hydrogen and n is 1.
- 29. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is methyl, and n is 1.
- 30. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ and R₅ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₄ is methyl, R₁ is hydrogen, R2 is methyl, and n is 1.
- 31. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen. R₂ is ethyl, and n is 1.

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- 32. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl, and n is 1.
- 33. (previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R₃ and R₅ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₄ is chlorine, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl and n is 1.
- 34. (previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R4 to R7 are hydrogen, R3 is chlorine, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl and n is 1.
- 35. (previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen, R₅ is chlorine, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl and n is 1.
- 36. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein are hydrogen, R4 and R5 are chlorine, R1 is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl and n is 1.

37. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₄ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₃ is methyl, R₁ is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

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- 38. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen, R₄ and R₅ are methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
- 39. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R₂ is ethyl and n is 1.
- 40. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen, R₄ and R₅ are methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
- 41. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is butylene, and n is 1.

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- 42. (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is pentyl and n is 1.
- 43, (withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
- 44. (withdrawn) A shampoo or shower gel containing a preservative according to claim 21, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
- 45, (withdrawn) A method according to claim 22, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
- 46. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, wherein R₁ is C2H5, R2 through R7 are H, and n is 1.
- 47. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
- 48. (new) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein
 - R₁ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

> R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl; and

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each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C2-C8 alkenyl and C3-C8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -0-, and n is 1 or 2,

with the proviso, that

- i) when R₁ and all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then n = 2:
- ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and
 - a) all groups R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, or
 - b) R₅ is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R₃, R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then n = 2:
- iii) when R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are methyl and all groups R_3 and R_5 through R_7 are hydrogen, then n = 2;
- iv) when R₁ and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2;
- v) when R_1 , R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then n = 2;
- vi) when R₁ and R₄ through R₇ are hydrogen, R₂ is methyl or ethyl, and R₃ is methyl or methoxy, then n = 2;

- vii) when R_1 , R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_8 are methyl or R_4 is hydrogen and R_8 is methyl, then n = 2; and
- viii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then n = 2.
- 49. (New) A composition according to claim 21, comprising 5 to 25% by weight of surfactants.